

Substitute Specification (including Abstract) be entered to replace the Specification of record.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 24 without prejudice as follows:

24. A device for loading input data into a program when performing an authentication using a cryptographic MAC function, the device comprising:

a first counter;

a linear-feedback shift register having a nonlinear feed-forward function for reading off from the linear-feedback shift register, and for influencing an output of the linear feedback shift register using the counter, the linear-feedback shift register forming at least part of a circuit;

at least one second counter for performing the program, the at least one second counter connected downstream of the linear-feedback shift register; and

at least one additional non-linear feedback shift register for cryptographically enhancing the circuit and being connected to the circuit, the at least one additional nonlinear feedback shift register being disconnectable.

REMARKS

Claims 15 to 29 are now pending.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response.

Applicants respectfully request that the title of the present application be rewritten as requested above, and as earlier submitted in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment dated December 1, 1998. No new matter has been added.

Claim 24 has been amended above. No new matter has been added. Attached herewith is a showing labeled Amended Version Showing Changes Made wherein any underlining shows added text and bracketing shows deleted text.

With respect to paragraph one (1) of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a). Applicants respectfully request entry of Fig. 2 in the Drawings. The subject matter of Fig. 2 is consistent and includes the subject matter already disclosed in the claims and in the Specification. No new matter has been added. New Fig. 2 has been added